

# Merry Christmas



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MISS TORRANCE—Lovely, blond Betty Baker, 16, Torrance High School senior, was selected Miss Torrance of 1959 at judging held Monday. She won the contest over five other contestants.

### Betty Baker Named 1959 Miss Torrance

Blonde Betty Baker, 16, will reign as Miss Torrance next year, after she was selected by a panel of judges Monday.

The Torrance High School senior won the competition over five other contenders for the coveted title and right to ride in the city's float in the Tournament of Roses Parade.

Another blond, Joyce Canon, was runner-up and will also be aboard the float.

Miss Baker, a part time secretary at the Chamber of Commerce, was sponsored by the Downtown Retail Merchants Association.

She is 5 feet, 4 inches tall, weighs 114 pounds and has measurements of 34½-23-34½.

"I was just thrilled to death, I never dreamed it could happen," she sighed after she was proclaimed the winner.

The judging was conducted Monday by a panel composed of sponsors, who were not permitted to vote for their own entry.

Miss Baker is presently commissioner of records at her school and will be a candidate for commissioner of pep at the next student body election.

### Name Winners of Southwood Home Contest

Trophies and prizes will be presented to the top three winners of the Southwood Home Owners Association Christmas outdoor decorating contest tomorrow.

The awards will be made by Mayor Albert Isen during the organization's dance at the Redondo Beach Elks Club at 9 p.m.

First prize winner was Russel Mayer, of 4919 Laurette St. who had a mechanical toyland display. Second prize will go to Warner F. Webster, of 21617 Reynolds Dr., and third prize to C. A. Smith, of 5107 Lee St.

Judges for the contest were Isen, Dick Fitzgerald, manager of the Chamber of Commerce, and Dr. Dennis Boyd of the Southwood Merchants Association.

The judging was done among 20 entries. Willis Dalperdang served as chairman of the contest which will be held again next year.

The home-owners dance will be held from 9 to 1 a.m.

In addition to trophies, the winners will be presented with cash and merchandise prizes.

### Still Need \$1000 For City Float

Donations to the Tournament of Roses Association of Torrance to finance the city's entry in the Rose Parade in Pasadena on New Year's Day were lagging during this past week according to Chairman George A. Bradford.

Bradford said that close to \$1000 is still needed to complete the drive headed by the Torrance Chamber of Commerce. He attributed the lag in the fund drive to the rush of Christmas activities.

He urged Torrance organizations, firms, and individuals to send contributions to the Chamber of Commerce office after Christmas. "After all, the Parade isn't until Jan. 1," Bradford reminded.

Heading the latest list of donations were checks for \$100 from the Torrance Police Officers, and the Downtown Retail Merchant Division of the Chamber. Donations of \$25 or more were received from Shell Chemical Company, Union Carbide Chemicals, George Binder, Walteria Businessmen's Club, Torrance Police Revolver Club, Rotary Club, Butchers Union, Local No. 551, Walteria Flower Shop, Sheridan-Gray Inc., California Rubber Products.

Torrance Police Officers Assoc., Astra Maintenance, Pittsburgh Plate Glass, Adams-Morgan-Latham-Kripp-Wright, Southwood Construction Co., Kiwanis Club of Walteria, Downtown Retail Merchants, North Torrance Civic Assoc.

### Ask Traffic Control

Request for a four-way traffic control system at Palos Verdes Blvd. and Calle Miramar is being requested by the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 330 Palos Verdes Blvd.

The letter points out that the traffic in the area is dangerous to the day school and Sunday school students.

### Foul-Up in Contes Charged

Criticism of the conduct of the Miss Torrance contest was hurled today by one of the entries, who was disqualified because she resides outside the city limits.

Joan Hensley, 16, said that she was never notified that she was not qualified, although she submitted her application several weeks ago.

She said that she did not know that she was ineligible until Sunday, when she read about the contest in the Torrance Press.

By this time she had already spent \$10 as part of the \$25 entry fee, bought an \$11 bathing suit, and another \$5 for a pair of shoes.

Miss Hensley said she resides at 22143 S. Grace St., which is east of the city limits, but has a Torrance post office address.

She said that her sponsor, who put up the other \$15 of the fee was never notified of the disqualification either, and believes if she was ruled ineligible, she should have been notified of the fact, long before the judging.

### Airport Board Rules Studied

The Airport Commission announced this week it wants more time to study its future role in the negotiation of airport leases and other airport business.

President Thomas B. Abrams said that the proposed statement of their duties will be studied by the commission on Jan. 8.

Airport commissioners had voiced dissatisfaction with a City Council decision to take all lease negotiations out of their hands, and one of them, Malcolm B. Neal, quit the board in protest.

Since then, the Council has reconsidered its decision and prepared rules for operation of airport business.

### Seek Lease Extension

A five-months extension of the lease at Torrance Municipal Airport was requested this week by E. E. Wilson.

The developer plans to build a hotel and terminal building on the airport land on which he holds an option through Dec. 31.

### Toddlers Chased by Animals

Two monkeys were placed under quarantine after they chased a number of toddlers and bit three of them Monday.

The female monkey, described as about 18 inches tall, chased two children into a house, bit them, and bolted outside where it bit another youngster.

Ronnie Crawford, 5, of 5106 Beran St., and his sister, Therese, 8, were reportedly attacked when the simian followed them into the house through a window.

Ronnie was bitten on the knee, and his sister on the thumb.

The monkey then hopped out of the window again and bit Karen Cramer, 8, of 5117 Beran St., on the arm, while she was playing outside her home.

She is the daughter of Robert Cramer, chairman of the Park and Recreation Commission.

South Bay Humane Officials said the monkeys belong to Robert Bevans, of 5125 Beran St. The animals were captured and placed under quarantine.

A number of children were playing in the neighborhood, when the monkeys suddenly got loose and started to chase them. One of the monkeys reportedly jumped on Ronnie's back and followed him inside the house.

"The children were in hysterics, they were so frightened," commented Mrs. Cramer.

### Black Market Seen If Food Clerks Strike

Fears of "black-market" prices on foods and adverse effects on the health of eight million Southern Californians if the Retail Clerks Union goes out on strike was voiced by the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau.

The bureau, in a unanimously adopted resolution, urged an immediate settlement of the dispute between the clerks and the Food Employers Council.

The clerks have threatened Southland markets with a strike if the employers do not accede to the workers' demands for over \$1600 increases in wage and benefits for each member.

The farm organization, representing some 3600 farmer members in the county, declared that the threatened strike by the union "would result in severe economic loss and hardship to all segments of our society and most particularly to the consuming housewife through shortages of all perishable items and resultant 'black-market' prices."

### Lomita Chambe to Install New Officers Slate

New officers of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce will be installed Jan. 9 at the Wayfarer's Restaurant, by Supervisor Burton W. Chace.

Henry G. (Hank) Mathews will succeed Dr. Warren H. Low as president of the Chamber at the banquet to be held at 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Elizabeth Hincley is chairman of the program and William Cowan will be master of ceremonies.

Dr. Low, who served as head of the organization during the past year, paid tribute to the cooperation received from county officials and the press for progress made during 1958.



THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS—Is portrayed in the big brown eyes of Harold Whitman Murray, better known to his friends as "Buster," as he contemplates the decorations on the Christmas tree. But even more fun will be in store for the 15-

month old toddler, as well as children and adults all over, as they unwrap their Christmas presents today.

Press Photo by Dot Daniels



SUSPECTS QUESTIONED—Two suspects in the robbery-shooting of a man in North Torrance Sunday, Gabriel Joseph Barreras, 18, second from left, and Edward Benavidez, are being

questioned by Torrance Det. Ralph Walker, examining shotgun, and Sheriff's Sgt. C. R. Everly, right.

Press Photo

### Suspects Held in Shooting

Two teenagers who mowed down a man with a shotgun blast early Sunday morning, will face a preliminary hearing Dec. 30 on robbery and assault with intent to commit murder charges.

Their alleged victim, Aaron William Johnson, 40, of 1609 W. 107th St., Los Angeles, is still in critical condition at Harbor General Hospital.

Johnson was walking along 182nd St., west of Western Ave., with his nephew, Dale M. Allsop, 25, of 18435 St. Andrews Pl., when he was shot with a sawed-off .410 gauge shotgun, allegedly fired by Edward Thomas Benavidez, of 1231 W. 46th St., Los Angeles.

Benavidez, and Gabriel Joseph Barreras, 18, of 223 N. Mendick St., East Los Angeles, as well as a 16-year-old juvenile were arrested a few hours after the shooting.

Started Argument Police said that while Johnson and Allsop were walking to the latter's home after leaving a bar, the teenagers started an argument with them during which they accused them of kicking their car.

The two men continued walking, and youths drove alongside them, and assertedly ordered them to throw their wallets on the ground.

Allsop complied by tossing some change into the street, but Johnson, who apparently did not hear the conversation, walked toward the car. As he approached, he was shot in the stomach from a range of four feet.

Helped Push Car Dets. Ralph Walker and Miles Hamilton said that after the shooting, the suspects' car stalled, and they ordered Allsop to help them push it, while Johnson was bleeding on the ground.

(Continued on Page Two)

### Testimonial Set for Mansfield

Although reservations are running at a brisk clip, tickets are still available for the Testimonial for Assistant City Manager Donald W. Mansfield, to be held at The Palms Tuesday noon.

Mayor Albert Isen said tickets may be obtained at the city managers office in the City Hall or at the Chamber of Commerce office.

Mansfield is leaving Torrance to accept the city administrator's position at Bell.

### Sponsor Konya Lions

Torrance Lions Club has started proceedings to sponsor a Lions Club in Konya, Turkey, as part of the city to city program.

Mayor Albert Isen, a club member, suggested the idea, since Lions International now has no clubs in Turkey.

### Council Blocks Naming of Top City Official

John V. Russell will be asked to continue on as public works director as a result of city Council action which blocked immediate appointment of a successor.

A move by City Manager George Stevens which would have resulted in immediate appointment of a new man to succeed the retiring incumbent, was turned down by a majority of the City Council following three changes of votes.

Stevens asked that the eligibility list from a previous civil service examination for the job be restored and that the salary be raised approximately 10 per cent. The city manager indicated that he would then appoint the third man on the list, who had previously bowed out of contention.

"This man is being pushed down my throat, and I don't like it," Councilman Willys Blount declared.

The council's action is expected to result in the calling of a second test for the job.

Stevens said that he will ask Russell to stay on the job until he can make an appointment, and will also call on City Engineer Ronald W. Bishop to continue on temporarily until his successor is named. Bishop recently requested to accept a lesser job in the engineering department.

A temporary appointment of Charles Catterlin as city prosecutor was approved on request of City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier.